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The humble PETITION OF Captain William Booth of *Killingholme*, in the County of *Lincoln*.

With His Majesties Answer thereunto.

York, 30 June, 1642.

YORK:
Printed by Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie; And by the Assignes of John Bill. 1642.

UMI

TO THE KINGS *MOST EXCELLENT* MAJESTIE.

The humble Petition of Captain *William Booth* of *Killingholme* in the County of *Lincoln*.

Sheweth,

THat whereas upon Wednesday, the 8 day of June instant, the Trayned Bands of the Division of *Caister* Sessions, were summoned by *Francis* Lord *Willoughby* of *Parham* and the Committee, to appear at *Caister* before them, contrary to your Majesties Proclamation; Your Petitioner being there, was informed against by one *Francis Fields* and *John Barnard* for reading Your Majesties said Proclamation, and sent for and delivered to a Messenger, and disarmed to his great disgrace in the presence of his own Souldiers, and to the great disheartning of the Countrey from Your Majesties service; which said Proclamation was sleighted, and termed a seditious Pamphlet by Sir *Christopher Wray*, who called himselfe Captain of the said Company which your Petitioner commands under Your Majestie; and told the Souldiers he would live and dye with them, and would gladly know who durst oppose their proceedings: further saying, That he heard that the Earle of *Lindsey* was to be there that day, whom he

would be glad to ſee, for they had a Meſſenger ready to receive him. All that Your Petitioner was then charged with, was, that He had ſaid the day before, That there was a brave appearance of the Trained Bands at *Lincolne* of ſome fifteen or ſixteen; which was interpreted to be an affront to their proceedings, and was threatned to be further charged at *Lowth* the next day with buſineſſe of a high Nature, and to have witneſſes produced againſt him face to face; which ſaid witneſſes never appeared, your Petitioner being all this while under commitment contrary to Law, which being offered to be argued in point of Law by Sir *Gervaſe Scroop* in the behalf of your Petitioner; It was anſwered by Sir *Chriſtopher VVray*, *That they came thither, neither to diſpute the Law, nor to be taught the Law, nor did value the Law, but muſt obſerve the Orders of the Houſe*; ſufficient Bayle being offered was utterly refuſed, your Petitioner being ſtill under commitment and commanded to wait their further pleaſures at *Horne Caſtle* the next day; where, being able to prove nothing againſt him, they releaſed him.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly deſireth, That Your Majeſtie would be graciouſly pleaſed to call theſe men to anſwer their contempt againſt Your Majeſtie, and to make ſatisfaction to your Petitioner for the injury and publique diſgrace, they have put upon him.

And your Petitioner will daily pray, &c.

York

York, 30 June, 1642.

His Majeſtie hath expreſly commanded me, to give this His Anſwer to this Petition.

That it is not at all ſtrange to Him, That thoſe perſons who have ventured to aſſume a command over the Militia (a Right of His never before ſeparated from the Crown) by direction from thoſe who pretend to this power by the Fundamentall Laws, and yet vouchſafe not to ſhew any one Clauſe of any one Statute, or any one preſident of any time, which might ſeem, with the leaſt colour, to give them that Authority, though He hath often preſſed them to it, and as little vouchſafe any Anſwer to the Statutes, or to thoſe multiplyed and perpetuall preſidents, which cleerly and palpably declare that Authority, to be in Him, ſhould uſe that Authority with as much injuſtice as they have aſſumed it; And not onely term His legall Proclamation a ſeditious

Pamphlet (since it is most certain, that if that be not, then they are most seditious,) but contrary to the Law of the Land, both ancient and modern, both to Magna Charta, and to the Petition of Right, yea and imprison His good subjects for a legall obedience to his legall commands, or a legall disobedience or disrespect to their illegall Orders and Actions; since he often before foretold, that their Contempt of his Regall Rights and Prerogatives, which are the guard of His Subjects Liberties, would in short time encourage them to destroy those too, when that which should guard them were once destroyed. And as little doth His Majestie wonder that the Insolence of thus violating ancient and known Laws should encourage them to that of using words proportionable to their actions, and professing (with great truth and ingenuity) that they value not the Law. His Majestie nevertheless (not following the example of other men in concluding any thing before examination) is resolved to have the truth of these allegations legally examined, and if (as is very probable by the annexed Affidavit) they be found true, to provide by all legall wayes, That both His Majestie

and

and the Petitioner may receive full satisfaction for the injuries done to both, and to the Law of the Land; His Majestie professing it the principall reason of His desire to have justice in the like matters done to Him, that (His full Authority being no longer scorned and vilified) He may be enabled to see it done to others, and that His good Subjects, who are wisely carefull to defend the Law (which is their common Birthright, and to which onely they owe all they have besides) may not (by unjust and intolerable oppressions) be made Martyrs for it.

Edw. Nicholas.

Captain

Captain William Booth *of Killingholm, and* William Scroop *of Little Coats, in the County of* Lincoln *Gentlemen make Oath, That the Petition delivered by the said* William Booth *unto his Majestie, concerning the imprisonment he suffered, by the Command of* Francis *Lord* Willoughby *of* Parham, *and the rest of the Committees of Parliament for the County aforesaid, and all the Actions and Passages therein expressed are most true, in that manner and forme as therein is declared.*

Jurat. coram me in Cancellaria
Magistro, Decimo Octavo die Junii,
Anno Domini. 1642.

W. Wentworth.

FINIS.